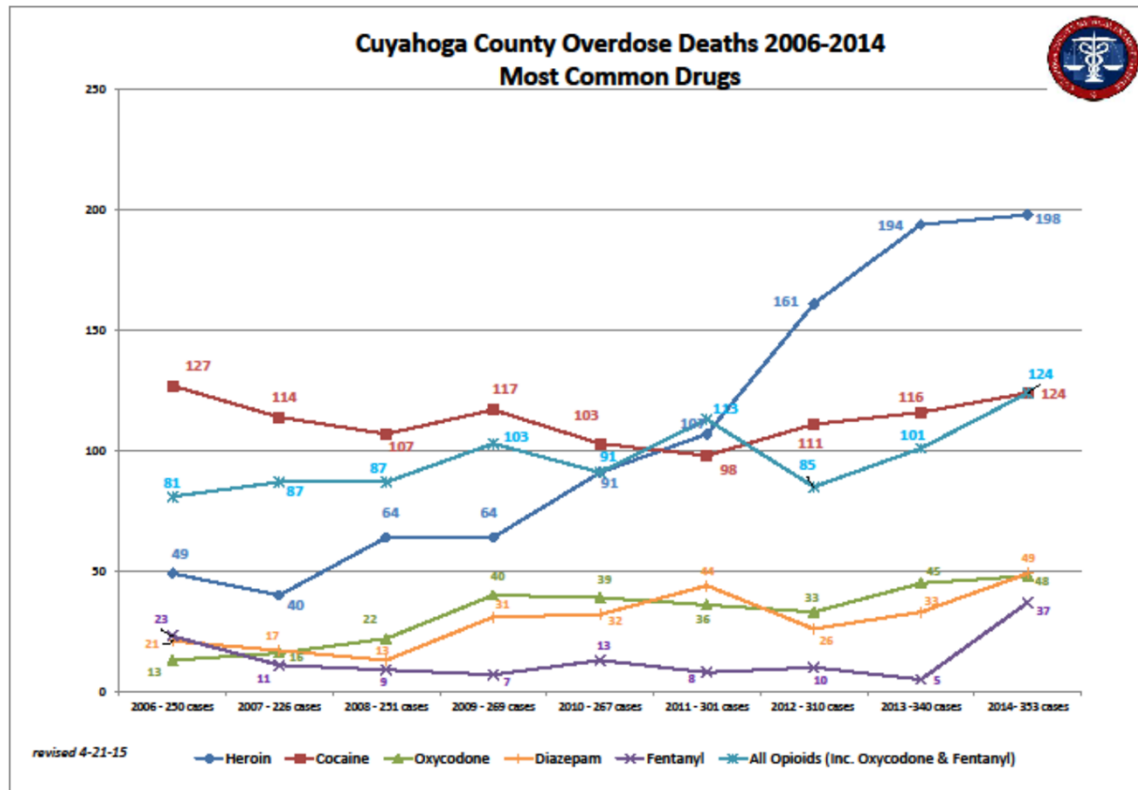# PSJ2 Exh 107

This Document Produced Natively

Overdose Deaths in Cuyahoga County

Thomas Gilson, M.D.

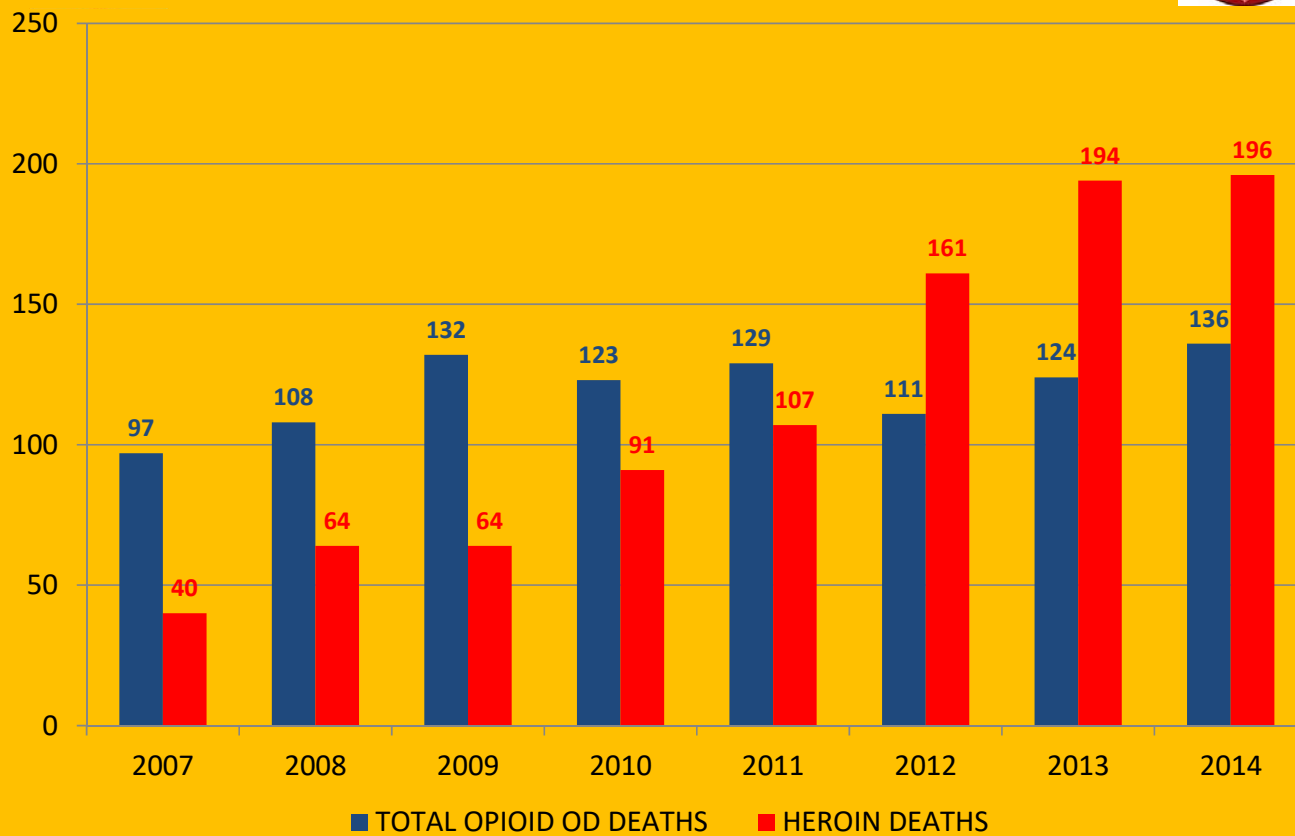Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner

Objectives

- Review current and recent data on extent of opioid mortality

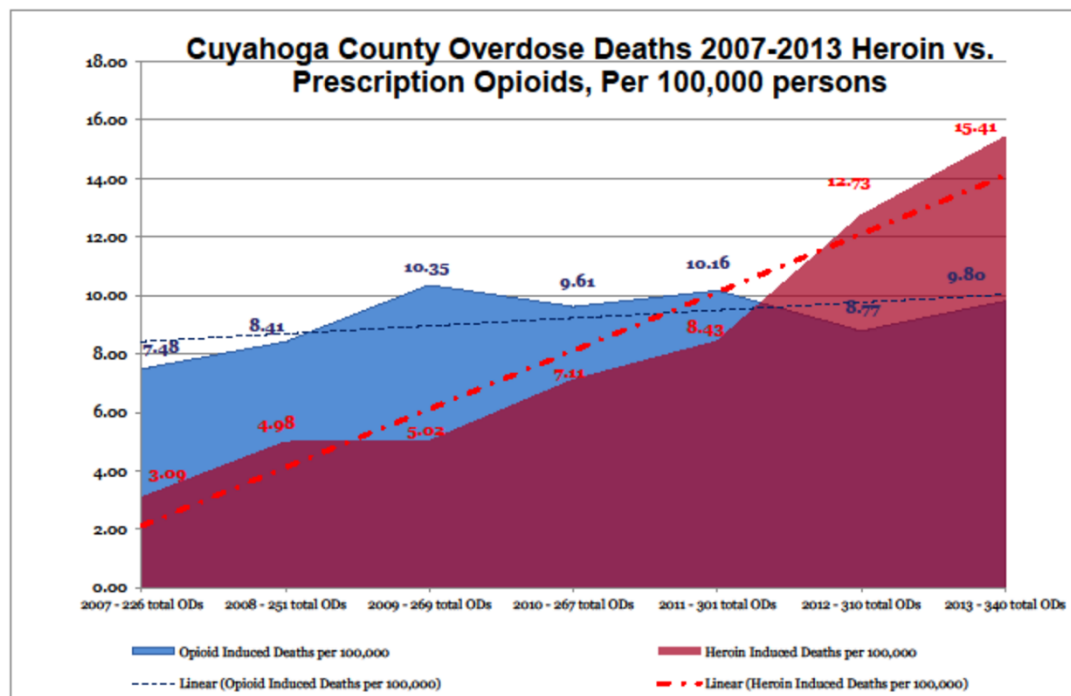- Discuss the interplay of legal and illegal opioids in mortality
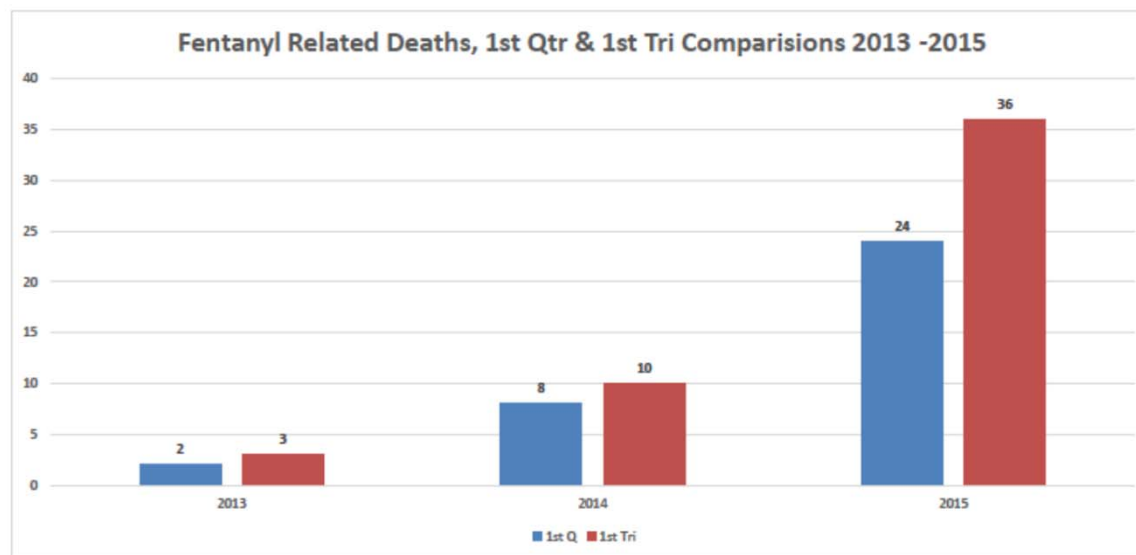
No conflicts to disclose

Cuyahoga County Overdose Deaths 2006-2014
Most Common Drugs

Comparing Opioid Overdose Deaths and
Heroin Deaths in Cuyahoga County, 2007-2014

Year	TOTAL OPIOID OD DEATHS	HEROIN DEATHS
2007	97	40
2008	108	64
2009	132	64
2010	123	91
2011	129	107
2012	111	161
2013	124	194
2014	136	196

■ TOTAL OPIOID OD DEATHS   ■ HEROIN DEATHS

Source: Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office February 11, 2015

Cuyahoga County Overdose Deaths 2007-2013 Heroin vs. Prescription Opioids, Per 100,000 persons

Source: Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office April 22, 2014

Fentanyl Related Deaths, 1st Qtr & 1st Tri Comparisions 2013 -2015

Heroin Epidemic

- 2012 retrospective review of heroin mortality conducted using ME data

- 2013 prospective review of heroin mortality done with ME staff, law enforcement, judicial representatives, medical/treatment physician, toxicologist and pharmacist (Poison Death Review Committee, PDR)

PDR Findings

- 194 heroin overdose fatalities(2013)

- (161 fatalities 2012)

- 95% of fatal heroin overdose victims known to abuse drugs (62% intravenous)

- 85% white

- 3:1 male to female ratio

- Most common age group 45-60; now followed closely by 30-44

PDR Findings

- Approximately 70% died in proximity to another person
  - 12% using drugs with others
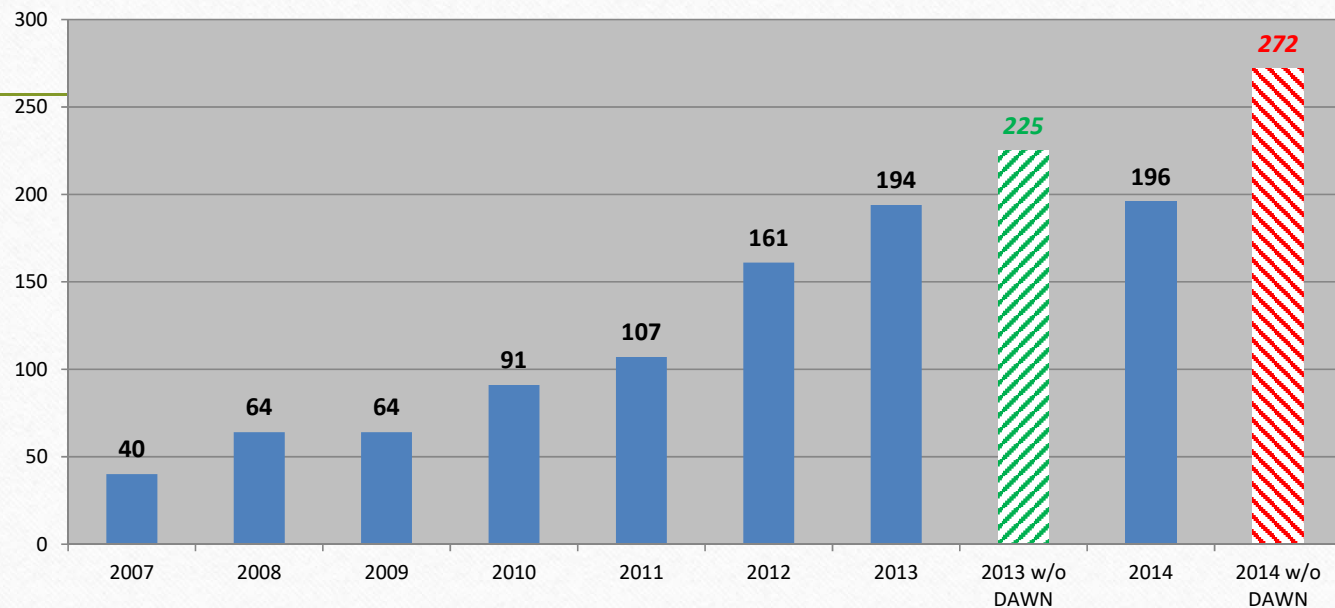 - 58% of bystanders not using drugs
- BUT only 25% received naloxone from EMS (EMS scene response was 98.5%)

Wider access to naloxone saves lives from heroin overdose (Project DAWN)

2013 – 31 documented reversals

2014- 76 reversals

Cuyahoga County Heroin Related Overdose Deaths 2007-2014; Projected with DAWN Saves

PDR Findings

▸ 73% of heroin overdose victims had a file with the Ohio Automated RX Registry System (OARRS)

▸ Meaning: within two years of death almost 3 of 4 heroin fatalities received a legal prescription for a controlled substance- most are narcotics or benzodiazepines

PDR Findings

- 36% of the heroin overdose victims fulfilled criteria for "doctor-shopping" in 2013

- Defined as 5 or more prescribers in one year

- OARRS look back period is only two years

A high percentage of fatal overdose victims are receiving legal prescriptions for narcotics in spite of a state prescription drug monitoring program